2. Dr. Irfan Habib, ... Member
Professor and Head of the
Department of History,
Aligarh Muslim University,
Aligarh.

3. Dr. Azhar Ansari. ... Member
Professor and Head of the
Department of Indian
History and Culture,
Jamia Millia,
New Delhi.

4. Shri S.A.I. Tirmizi, ... Member
Deputy Director of Archives,
National Archives of India,
New Delhi.

5. Dr. K.P. Srivastava, ... Member-Secretary
Director of Archives,
Uttar Pradesh,
Lucknow.

Standing Committee's views:

Commended for consideration of the Commission.

(V) Formation of a Committee to study appropriate qualifications and pay-scales for the professional posts in the National Archives of India and State Archives

(29) Resolution by Prof. O.P. Bhatnagar

"Keeping in view the crucial role of Archivists in identifying and preserving important records on which all genuing historical research is based, and the consequent necessity of attracting competent and scholarly persons to this profession the Government of India is requested to form

a Committee headed by the Chairman of the Standing Committee and with representatives of Ministry of Finance, University Grants Commission, etc., as members, to recommend appropriate qualifications and pay-scales for the different professional posts in the National Archives of India and the State Archives."

Explanatory Note:

The role of the Archivists is of utmost importance in selecting and preserving records of historical value, in preparing their finding-aids, etc. If the work of the archivist is of indifferent quality, valuable records would be lost for ever, and historical research will suffer throughout the country. It is necessary, therefore, to attract men and women of high calibre to this crucial and small profession. With the recent and laudable revision upwards of the pay scales of Lecturers, Readers and Professors in the Universities, there is a clear danger of archivists leaving their profession to join universities, and only the rejects from universities coming to the archival profession. The new pay scales for Readers is upto Rs.1900/-, while in the National Archives, the Assistant Directors with twenty years of service behind them, and after several promotions earned against stiff competition, go upto only Rs.1600/-, and even Deputy Directors, go upto only Rs.1700/-. The pay scales in State Archives are lower, and even the Directors of the most important State Archives go upto only about Rs.1500/-. Formerly the Director of the National Archives of India had a pay-scale slightly

better than the pay scale of a University Professor. Now it is much lower. The senior staff are expected to be scholars as well as administrators, with large staff to guide and control. The low pay-scales are likely to result in low quality among the archivists, with the reselt that historical research will suffer, and our unique archival wealth will be endangered. It appears necessary, therefore, for the Commission to take note of these problems, and to make suitable recommendation to the Government for early action.

Standing Committee's views:

Commended for consideration of the Commission.

(W) Establishment of an Oral History Record Office

(23) Resolution by Prof. O.P. Bhatnagar

"Resolved that an Oral History Record Offece be established as a part of the National Archives whose purpose should be to record on tape and then transcribe the recollections of men who have played an important part in recent history as well as the reactions of those who have seen history made."

Standing Committee's views:

Commended for consideration of the Commission.